

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 10473 241842Z

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5506

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,IT,US, XG

SUBJECT: L'UNITA COVERAGE OF WEU DISCUSSION OF SEGRE REPORT

REF: ROME 10338

1. L'UNITA COVERAGE JUNE 24 OF WEU ASSEMBLY CONSIDERATION OF SERGIO SEGRE'S REPORT ON REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT REFLECTS BITTERNESS OVER THE AMERICAN INTERVENTION THROUGH THE NATO MECHNAISM. WRITTEN BY ITS PARIS CORRESPONDENT, THE L'UNITA ARTICLE SUGGESTS THAT, REACTING TO THE FACT THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME A COMMUNIST WAS CHOSEN AS A WEU RAPPORTEUR, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DISPLAYED QUOTE AN ANACHRONISTIC PREOCCUPATION END QUOTE AND ATTEMPTED TO EXERT DIRECT AND INDIRECT PRESSURE TO OBTAIN A VOTE AGAINST THE SEGRE REPORT.

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PAGE 02 ROME 10473 241842Z

2. ARTICLE GOES ON TO NOTE THAT SEGRE'S REPORT GENERATED AN EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION WITH SOME GERMAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND BRITISH CONSERVATIVES DELIVERING COLD WAR TYPE SPEECHES. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE ARTICLE DESCRIBES AS POSITIVE THE POSITIONS OF THE FRENCH SOCIALISTS, COMMUNISTS AND GAULLISTS AND OF THE DUTCH, GERMAN AND BRITISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATS.

IT ALSO NOTES WITH SATISFACTION THAT CONVERGENCE OF VIEWS WAS REACHED ON TWO IMPORTANT POINTS: 1) THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO DETENTE OTHER THAN WAR AND THE DESTRUCTION OF HUMANITY; AND 2) THE IEA THAT BELGRADE REVIEW CONFERENCE SHOULD BE A VERIFICATION AND A BRIDGE TOWARDS THE FUTURE FOR A DEEPENING OF ALL THE MOTIVES THAT COULD IMPROVE THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND COULD DEVELOP THE CONDITIONS FOR PEACE THROUGH PROGRESS IN COOPERATION, IN DISARMAMENT AND IN DETENTE.

3. FOCUSING ON THE AMERICAN INTERVENTION THE ARTICLE NOTES THE COMMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE WEU POLITICAL COMMISSION (MS. VON BOTHMER, GERMAN SPD) WHO ARGUED WITH THOSE WHO WISH TO SILENCE COMMUNIST REPRESENTATIVES. L'UNITA ALSO CALLS ATTENTION TO STATEMENTS OF FRENCH GAULLISTS RIVIERE AND VALLEX, FRENCH COMMUNIST BOUCHENAY, AND THE DANISH SOCIAL DEMOCRAT DANKERT, ALL OF WHOM DENOUNCED THE AMERICAN MANEUVER. DANKERT IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HE WAS QUOTE STUPIFIED BY THE LACK OF FAITH OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE FUNCTIONING OF DEMOCRACY IN OUR ASSEMBLY. END QUOTE. THE GAULLISTS CALLED THE AMERICAN INTERVENTION QUOTE INADMISSIBLE AND PARADOXICAL END QUOTE.

4. ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT IN LIGHT OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 ROME 10473 241842Z

LARGE NUMBER OF AMENDMENTS AND IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE BELGRADE REVIEW PROCESS ONLY JUST GOTTEN UNDERWAY, SEGERE AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLITICAL COMMISSION PROPOSED THAT THE DRAFT REPORT BE RETURNED TO THE COMMISSION FOR FURTHER STUDY. THIS PROCESS WILL GET UNDERWAY NEXT MONTH. GARDNER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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